MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

10 MAY 1982

Lebanon

Israeli Raid, Palestinian Reaction -- Israeli planes bombed targets in southern Lebanon during the afternoon of 9 May, the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported. Jerusalem radio said the airstrike hit three Fatah bases, one south of the Az-Zahrani River, another south of Ad-Damur and a third on the outskirts of Sidon. It said the planes encountered sparse antiaircraft fire during their attack, which was ordered by the Israeli Government in retaliation for "grave violations" of the cease-fire, including the planting of mines in southern Lebanon and inside Israel, the injury of two people by a bomb on a Jerusalem bus and the planting of a bomb near the Ashqelon school. The Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the planes destroyed a missile dump in Ad-Dubbiyah and a radar station in the Ad-Dalhamiyah area. Five people were killed and 12 were wounded in the raids, according to Beirut radio. Sixteen planes took part in the attack, which lasted about 2 hours, YEDI'OT AHARONOT reported.

Shortly after the raid, Palestinian gunners in southern Lebanon opened fire across Israel's northern border, Jerusalem radio said. The Palestinians fired shells and Katyusha rockets into the Galilee panhandle, western Galilee and Maj Sajd Haddad's border enclave during the evening, according to Jerusalem television. While the television said the IDF had not returned the fire, Voice of Lebanon spoke of an Israeli-Palestinian artillery duel along the border. Galilee residents spent the night in bomb shelters, but quiet prevailed along the border during the night, according to Jerusalem Radio. IDF radio said Prime Minister Menahem Begin has promised the Metulla local council head to do everything to ensure that quiet is maintained along the border in the future. Jerusalem radio noted that although 100 shells were fired, there were no casualties. The Israeli Cabinet held a 4-hour meeting on 10 May to discuss the situation in the north, according to IDF radio. Military chiefs attended the meeting.

Reacting to the Israeli air raid, the Voice of Palestine warned that the joint forces will not stand "with hands tied before these continuous Zionist aggressions." The Israeli Government will pay a "very heavy price," whose effects will not be confined to one specific part of the conflict and confrontation area, but will spread on a large scale, the radio said. The PLO Executive Committee, which met in Beirut after the raid, accused Israel of "blatant and repeated violations" of the ceasefire, according to a subsequent radio report.

Tripoli Clashes -- Gunmen from rival factions in the northern city of Tripoli engaged in violent clashes throughout the weekend, according to Beirut radio reports. The radio spoke of fierce shelling between the At-Tabbanah and Ba'l Muhsin quarters and noted that Syrian Arab Deterrent Forces came under attack. It said 5 people were killed and 52 were wounded 7-8 May and that another 8 were killed and 38 were wounded in renewed clashes on 9 May. Former Prime Minister Rashid Karami's efforts to arrange a cease-fire did not succeed.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iranian forces have liberated the Shalamcheh area, completing the siege of Khorramshahr and surrounding two Iraqi brigades, Tehran radio's Arabic service announced early on 10 May. The third phase of the current offensive started the previous night, the radio said. Earlier, military communiques and reports broadcast by Tehran radio said the Iranians had recaptured Hamid, Hoveyzeh and Jofeyr in western Khuzestan, near the Iraqi border. Iraqi missile bases in Jofeyr, which were targeted on Ahvaz, had fallen. Before fleeing, Iraqi troops destroyed Hoveyzeh and Hamid, according to IRNA.

An Iraqi military spokesman announced that Iraqi forces have withdrawn from positions west of Ahvaz and Susangerd in order to reinforce Iraqi units in the south, INA reported on 8 May. The Iraqis have reinforced their presence in Khorramshahr to confront any possible Iranian attack there, he said. The main task of Iraqi forces is not to preserve Iranian territory, the spokesman said, but to inflict heavy losses on the Iranians in order to exhaust them and force Iran to recognize Iraq's rights to land and water.

Despite the admission of withdrawal, Iraq continued to report military successes over the weekend. Military statements reported by Voice of the Masses radio on 8 May claimed the Iranians lost 3,500 killed and suffered large tank losses on the southern front. Iraqi fighter planes and helicopters attacked Iranian positions in the (at-Taheri)-(Halub) Bridge area on 9 May, according to a communique carried by INA. The Iraqis shot down one Iranian plane over Bostan on 10 May and two others in the southern front on 8 May, according to reports by Baghdad radio and Voice of the Masses. On the other hand, a communique carried by INA on 7 May admitted the loss of two Iraqi fighters over Iran. An Iranian communique carried by Tehran radio said Iranian fighters and antiaircraft fire had downed six Iraqi planes, including two Mirages on 7 May.

Egyptian Warning to Iran -- Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz has warned Iran that there would be "grave consequences" if the Iranian Army crossed the Iraqi border, MENA reported. Egypt is opposed to a widening and escalation of aggressive acts, and the situation must be contained, Al-Baz said.

Iran

Embassy Destroyed -- A bomb exploded in front of the Syrian Embassy in Tehran on 9 May, destroying the embassy building and wounding 16 passersby, Tehran radio reported. The Syrian envoy to Iran noted Iraq's involvement in similar acts and linked Iraq with the explosion, the radio added. However, an Iraqi Government spokesman ridiculed the Syrian ambassador's allegations and said it is ridiculous that Iraq should be held responsible for protecting the Syrian Embassy in Tehran, Baghdad radio reported.

Religious Leader Convicted -- A religious leader and three revolution guards have been convicted and sentenced for their part in a plot to overthrow Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, AFP reported citing ETTELA'AT. The religious leader, Sheykh Ebrahim Moharrer, was sentenced to 10 years exile in Qom, while the other three received 10-year prison sentences.

Israel

Autonomy Talks -- The Cabinet has proposed to resume without delay the negotiations between Egypt, Israel and the United States on full autonomy for the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District, while also asserting that these talks would be held in the capitals of the three countries involved, Jerusalem radio reported. The Cabinet determined that it was inconceivable that Israel should agree to the boycott of Jerusalem as one of the three capitals in which the autonomy talks were to be conducted. Prime Minister Menahem Begin made it categorically clear that he will not allow an Israeli delegation to leave for Washington for talks if talks are not later held in Jerusalem as well, IDF radio reported. Meanwhile, Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, said the differences between Egypt and Israel on holding the Palestinian autonomy negotiations in Jerusalem are merely procedural difficulties for which a solution can be reached, Cairo radio reported.

Security Situation -- Six Druzes in the Golan Heights village of Buq'ata were wounded when police fired at demonstrators who tried to attack a police patrol car, Jerusalem radio reported. However, the villagers maintained that nine people had been wounded, according to a later radio report. A woman and an 8-year-old girl were injured when a bomb exploded on a bus in the 'Ezrat Torah quarter of Jerusalem, according to another radio report.

West Bank Municipalities' Communique -- West Bank municipalities said in a joint communique that they will continue to boycott the civil administration in reaction to the Israeli occupation and the administration's harming of unarmed Arab inhabitants, Jerusalem radio reported. The municipalities said they would continue to provide essential services to the inhabitants, although the dismissed Palestinian mayors had previously proposed stopping all services. According to a later radio report, the municipalities retracted the joint communique and decided to make a symbolic suspension of services to the inhabitants.

Egypt

Qabus Visit -- Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id departed Muscat on 8 May for a 4-day state visit to Egypt to hold talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, WAKH reported. According to MENA, the two leaders met for talks on 9 May. Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz said the talks between the two leaders, which lasted over 2 hours, dealt with developments in the Iran-Iraq war, Gulf security, the Palestinian issue and relations between Egypt and Oman, MENA reported. Commenting on the Iran-Iraq war, Al-Baz said there was agreement between the two leaders that these military operations should stop in view of their grave consequences, which go beyond the two countries. Regarding whether Sultan Qabus had contacted Arab states about restoring relations with Egypt, Al-Baz said the Omani leader is carrying out various contacts and that Arab leaders had made several visits to Muscat. However, Al-Baz denied that Qabus' visit to Egypt was made under an agreement with members of the GCC.

In a dinner speech broadcast by Cairo radio, Qabus urged Arab leaders to forget the past and to restore relations between the Arab states and Egypt in order to complete the rebuilding of Arab solidarity. Mubarak, in his dinner speech also carried by the radio, praised the Omani leader for standing by Egypt in the past. In a reference to the Iran-Iraq war, Mubarak said Egypt would not accept any infringement on the security of the Arab Gulf states and actions aimed at jeopardizing the rights of these states. Mubarak also noted the need to create a proper atmosphere for the inclusion of the Palestinians in the Middle East peace process. He said this requires a halt to acts of suppression and violence, the avoidance of extremism and incitement and a halt to the building of settlements in Arab territory.

Egyptian-Arab Relations -- Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is considering normalizing relations with Egypt, according to a Saudi press report cited by AFP. The London paper ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT reported that the Iraqi president is preparing to send a senior representative to Cairo. Meanwhile, Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, in an interview with the Lebanese weekly AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI cited by MENA, said the Arabs want Egypt back in the Arab fold and that Bahrain is trying to achieve this. He added that efforts to remove the gap between Egypt and the Arabs will begin within days or weeks. Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri called for an Arab summit with Egypt invited to attend, SPA rpeorted citing a Numayri interview with 'UKAZ and AL-MADINAH.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said Arab solidarity is inevitable and that Egypt welcomes any efforts aimed at consolidating the solidarity of Arab states, Cairo radio reported.

Mubarak Interview -- Egypt will leave it to the Arab states, each as it sees fit and in its own time, to resume relations with Egypt, President Mubarak declared in an interview with Omani journalists carried by MENA. Noting that he did not wish to embarass them, Mubarak said Egypt had taken no steps toward a rapprochement with the Arab states. Asked to appraise Egyptian-Omani relations, Mubarak confirmed that relations are "excellent." Regarding the restoration of Arab territory still under Israeli control, Mubarak said this could only be achieved through negotiation. Mubarak said he does not agree with Syria that liberation can be achieved by force. Asked about the Iran-Iraq war, Mubarak said the Iraqi president is prepared to reach an agreement with Iran and to withdraw to the prewar border. Mubarak called on Iran to agree to this.

Executions Demanded -- The state supreme security prosecution has demanded the execution of 299 defendants in the case of the Al-Jihad organization, MENA reported. The defendants, who are accused of attempting to overthrow the government, will be the first to stand trial out of the 1,200 persons accused in the case, MENA noted.

Yemen

PDRY-YAR Relations -- Unity will remain the prime objective between the YAR and PDRY, and the two countries will not hesitate to use any means to achieve it, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, and YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih declared in a press statement carried by Sana'a' radio. During their 3-day meeting in Ta'izz, the two leaders agreed to overcome the "instability" and "difficulties" obstructing reunification.

YAR Envoy to USSR Recalled -- The YAR is believe to have recalled its ambassador to the Soviet Union because of Soviet support for Yemeni dissidents, AFP reported citing Arab diplomatic sources. The Soviet ambassador had been warned several times by the YAR Foreign Ministry against Soviet interference in YAR affairs, the source noted.

Saudi Arabia

Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has denied that Saudi Arabia's oil production has fallen to 5.5 million barrels per day, SPA reported.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MAJ GEN ABDOL QADER INTERVIEWED ON SECURITY

LD092312 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 9 May 82

[Laszlo Benda interview with Maj Gen Abdol Qader, vice president of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan and "minister of defense," following a military parade held in Kabul to mark the Afghan revolution anniversary -- date not given -- Qader's responses are in Russian with superimposed Hugarian translation]

[Text] [Question] You have three important posts: You are vice president of the Revolutionary Council, minister of Defense [as heard] and a head of department at the party Central Committee. Which one of these are you concentrating on most?

[Answer] I work most at the Ministry of Defense. My work as head of the Justice and Defense Department in the Central Committee is connected with this. I also have tasks in my post as vice president of the Revolutionary Council.

[Question] How would you characterize Afghanistan's current internal security situation?

[Answer] I must remind that an undeclared war is being waged in our country at present. However, the military initiative is unequivocally in our hands. We have succeeded in liquidating the majority of the counterrevolutionary gangs. This is why these forces have resorted to new tactics: the use of terrorist methods.

[Question] How can you respond to these tactics?

[Answer] The situation in our country is normal.

[Question] Yes, but I was asking you about tactics, that is, the tactics of those resisting.

[Answer] We are taking the necessary countermeasures.

[Question] What kind of measures, for instance?

[Answer] For example, we send small groups, reconnaissance units to various localities. We study the data we receive about the rebels. Our reconnaissance units in the air and on land are operating along the length of our borders. In a word, we are keeping an eye on them.

[Question] Are there at present any dangerous regions in Afghanistan?

[Answer] There are no dangerous areas in this country.

[Question] In your view, then, there is complete security?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Even so, a general mobilization was ordered in the course of the past few months. Do you think the size of the Afghan Army can be successfully stabilized?

[Answer] Naturally. During the past few days, as you may have heard, we announced that we would demobilize those soldiers whose tour of duty had come to an end, that is to say, those who have finished their tour of duty. We are, of course, recruiting new soldiers to replace those demobilized.

[Question] And are these measures adequate?

[Answer] Yes, because on the one hand we are recruiting and mobilizing new men and thus building up the army, while on the other hand, we are demobilizing those whose tour of duty has come to an end.

[Question] Could you give us a few concrete figures about the number of rebels captured in the course of the past year?

[Answer] Well, during the past year, or more precisely, during the 4 or 5 months since I became minister of defense, [as heard] we have succeeded in capturing more than 3,000-4,000 counterrevolutionaries.

[Question] And what about weapons?

[Answer] In the course of last year we captured more than 5,000 weapons, yes, 5,000 weapons.

SECURITY FORCES ARREST 73 COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

GF091813 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] Aided by the masses, the security forces and party members have crushed a number of counterrevolutionaries who used to disturb the security of the toiling masses in Maranjan, Helmand Province.

In a report by the BAKHTAR news agency correspondent in Maranjan, in Helmand Province, the armed forces have captured 73 of these counterrevolutionaries, including their known leaders. The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the armed forces have demolished three caches belonging to these traitors of the homeland and the revolution and have seized the vehicles which these counterrevolutionaries forcibly took from the toiling masses. They also captured various kinds of weapons and hundreds of antitank missiles and documents [words indistinct] of these bands.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that thousands of toiling citizens of Maranjan and its outskirts in Helmand Province have hailed the crushing of these counterrevolutionaries and acknowledged the armed forces' struggle to cleanse the country of these bands. They took part in a great march held on this occasion, raising national flags and [word indistinct] and shouting slogans against the enemies of the homeland and the revolution who are opposing humanity and (?Islam).

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES IN WARDAG, JOWZJAN CAUGHT

LD052022 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 5 May 82

[Text] As a result of the courage of security force and revolution defense groups 12 people connected with counterrevolutionary elements were crushed in Zarqol Village, in the suburbs of Maydan Shahr, Wardag Province. Five more of these enemies of the peace and prosperity of our toiling people were captured.

A spokesman for the province's security force reported that these traitors to the homeland and revolution annoyed and caused suffering for our toiling people by intimidating and robbing them along the Kabul-Maydan highway. The spokesman added that nine assorted weapons, ammunition and handgrenades were seized from these counterrevolutionary elements.

According to a report from the capital of Jowzjan Province, a group of counterrevolutionary elements who had endangered the peaceful life of the people of Shor Tepa village, Qarqin District, Jowzjan Province, together with their ringleaders Mohammad Morad and Mohammad Zaher, were crushed on 2 May by the security forces and revolution defense group.

Assorted American and Chinese weapons and a large quantity of ammunition were seized from them.

SOCIAL WELFARE, WOMEN'S AFFAIRS ADVISER NAMED

BK091509 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 May 82 p 1

[Text] Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad has appointed Dr Shafia Khatun, member of the Bangladesh Public Service Commission, as a member of his Council of Advisers, reports BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANSGTHA.

Dr Shafia Khatun has been allocated the portfolio of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs.

FORMER MINISTER ACQUITTED BY MARTIAL LAW COURT

BK090638 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] The five-member Special Martial Law Tribunal No 1 headed by Brig M. Mashahed Chowdhury has delivered its judgment in the second case against former Deputy Prime Minister Jamaluddin Ahmed adn 11 coaccused. In a unanimous judgment yesterday morning, they were found not guilty and acquitted of charges in this case.

AFP Report

BK081458 Hong Kong AFP in English 1000 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] Dacca, 8 May (AFP) -- Bangladesh's former deputy prime minister, Jamaluddin Ahmed, facing trial for the third time in a martial law tribunal, was today unanimously acquitted on charges of corruption and misuse of power while he was industries minister.

However, in two judgments recently under the martial law regulations, which carry a possible death penalty, he was sentenced to 7 years of hard labour and a fine of 1 million takas and to a day of rigorous imprisonment and a fine of 350,000 takas.

Eleven others, mostly traders and licensing officials, who were accused of aiding and abetting, were also acquitted today and ordered to be freed.

Mr Ahmed is expected to appear before another martial law tribunal next week on similar charges of corruption and misues of power.

A second special martial law tribunal was set up last week under Brigadier Abdus Salam. It is expected to start trying cases against former ministers and others next week.

The first to appear before it is to be former Housing Minister and Mayor of Dacca City Abul Hasnat, who was one of eight former ministers arrested following Army Chief Lt Gen Ershad's military takeover here on March 24.

GENERAL ERSHAD PAYS VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

For Riyadh SPA and Domestic accounts of the visit of Bangladesh Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mchammed Ershad to Saudi Arabia, including coverage of his press conference and the issuance of a joint communique, see the Arabian Peninsula section of the 5 May Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT.

HAQ ON POSSIBILITY OF ELECTIONS, ADVISORY COUNCIL

BK081036 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] Talking to newsmen, the president said while formulating the future political structure for the country, which has been receiving constant thought, they must see what is good for the nation, its consolidation and integration with its Islamic ideological base. About the holding of elections on non-party basis, he said the idea was put forward in order to ascertain public views. This was only one of the proposals before him. The idea was put forward in view of the very large number of political parties and if this was put into practice it might help in reducing the number of parties. As, and when two or three major parties emerged in the country, the political activities would be allowed.

President Ziaul Haq said the establishment of the Majlis-I-Shoora [Federal Advisory Council] was a step in the direction of political activities. In reply to a question, he said the recommendations of the Islamic ideology council about various laws will be presented to the Majlis-I-Shoora as and when they are submitted by the council. He told a questioner that for the remaining members of the Majlis-I-Shoora, and as announced by him in Dera Ghazi Khan, he had decided to give representation to the tribal area of that division. In reply to another question, he has allowed Dr Israr Ahmed to resign from the Majlis to enable him to puruse his religious preaching. All the members of the majlis were nominated after ascertaining their consent and if anyone was to leave it there was no bar.

HAQ FAVORS ROLE FOR ARMY IN FUTURE POLITICAL SETUP

GF100747 Karachi DAWN in English 7 May 82 pp 1, 20

[Excerpt] Multan, May 6 -- President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said here today that he favoured a role for the army in the future political setup of the country to forestall repetition of martial laws. Talking to newsmen at the Multan airport on his way from Dera Ghazi Khan to Rawalpindi this evening, he said it was his firm belief that such a role for the army was essential in an ideological state like Pakistan.

The army, he said, was responsible for the protection and defence of the country and being a disciplined and organised force was capable of protecting the geographical frontiers of the nations. He said that any further setup would envisage a higher command council to take decisions on vital and important issues. The command council, he said, should include the president, the prime minister, the defense minister and the three chiefs of the army. He said it was all the more necessary to have such high command council to avoid conflicting decisions regarding the country's foreign and domestic policies.

He said that by virtue of the importance of the armed forces in the defence of the country it was imperative that they were informed of the national and international issues facing the country. He said had there been a balance between the powers of the president and the prime minister under the 1973 constitution, the president would have taken a decision to pull the country back from the crisis of 1977. The involvement of the army, he said thus would have been excluded.

HAMID, HOVEYZEH TAKEN: OTHER SUCCESSES DETAILED

Joint Communique 12

LD071306 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 May 82

[Joint communique No 12 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors. Mohammad, the prophet of God, and those who are with him are harsh with the enemy but merciful among themselves.[Koranic verse] "Greetings to dear Iran and the noble people, who have such powerful fighters, such lovers so immersed in divine beauty and such soldiers who regard martyrdom as their ultimate goal and self-sacrifice in the path of their beloved as their basic aspiration" -- Imam Khomeyni.

In the second stage of the extensive Jerusalem Operations [bayt al-moqaddas], the fighters of Islam continue to advance to the west of the Karun River and are inflicting fresh blows upon the defeated enemy. In these operations, which started at 2215 last night with the codename Lord of the Faithful, the fighters of Islam, with divine assistance, attacked the enemy and at 2252 occupied the first enemy bunker. Then by attacking the heart of the enemy positions, our brothers set fire to a large number of tanks and armored personnel carriers. Following this offensive by the fighters of Islam, a number of enemy soldiers to the west of Hoseyniyeh surrendered to the forces of Islam and turned over 18 personnel carriers. At 0030 this morning the enemy's 1st Armored Battalion and one tank battalion from their 12th Armored Brigade were completely surrounded by the fighters of Islam and were smashed. At 0100 the enemy, which could no longer resist and confront the heroic forces of Islam, began to flee and withdraw. At 0115 the headquarters of the 6th Armored Brigade of the 3d Iraqi Division was surrounded by the fighters of Islam, and all the guards and personnel of the headquarter were killed.

Continuing their clashes with the enemy, the powerful and heroic fighters of Islam succeeded in completely smashing the 6th and 12th Armored Brigades of the 3d Iraqi Division this morning. Following that, the fighters defending the Islamic revolution in a victorious operation succeeded in inflicting heavy blows upon the enemy's 8th Mechanized Brigade. Under the crushing blows of the forces of Islam, the aggressive enemy forces suffered a large number of dead and injured and left behind a very large quantity of their armored equipment while fleeing.

In one of the canals that the enemy was constructing to protect the southwest side of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road, more than 30 tanks have been left behind intact. At the moment, a large number of charred tanks and demolished personnel carriers can be seen throughout the region, and a large quantity of weapons and ammunitions of the forces of Saddam have been captured intact by the forces of Islam. The job of collecting and counting them is still going on.

During these operations, which were carried out under the codename Lord of the Faithful, Ya 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, on the eve of his blessed birthday, more than 300 square km of the holy land of the Islamic revolution were cleansed of the aggressive enemy. Thus, since the beginning of the Jersualem Operations, more than 1,100 square km of our Islamic homeland to the west of the Karun River have been liberated.

At the moment, the fighters of Islam are stationed along 17 km of the international border and are busy consolidating the positions they have won. During today's operations two enemy planes were downed by the fire from fighter planes and antiaircraft guns of the fighters of Islam. At this stage of the extensive Jerusalem Operation, a large number of aggressive enemy forces were killed or wounded and a large number of tanks, personnel carriers, vehicles and a large quantity of weapons and ammunitions were captured by the forces of Islam. However, due to the extensive nature of the operation, no accurate satistics are yet available about the number of enemy losses, the equipment destroyed or the booty seized.

At the moment, the enemy-crushing fighters, the noble children of the Islamic nation, the heroic soldiers of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing members of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the devoted members of the reconstruction crusade, the hard-working relief workers of all the fighters who are working for the fulfillment of divine aspirations, as well as our combative and aware clergy, who side by side with our fighters chant verses concerning the Islamic jihad for the children of Islam, are standing firm and strong in their eternal covenant with their lord. They express their congratulations for these great victories, which are the result of their unity and their reliance on Almighty God and His secret assistance to his holiness, the remnant of God [the hidden imam], may our lives be a sacrifice to him and to his vice regent, the great Khomeyni. May these great victories add to the faith, devotion and steadfastness of our martyr-nurturing nation. With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and the liberation of Jerusalem from usurping Zionism. With the assistance of God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Joint Communique 13

LD071816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 May 82

[Joint communique No 13 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of oppressors. "Glory to the combatants who have [words indistinct] the war fronts by their meditations and prayers to their creator." [quotation from Khomeyni]

The victorious combatants and the proud conquerors of the (?land) of salvation, these enthusiastic followers of Hoseyn's Karbala and sincere warfarers on the path of the Koran, are tirelessly continuing their war against world oppression and its criminal servants.

As a part of the second phase of the overall Jerusalem Operation[bayt al-moqaddas], which began with the codename Ya 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, west of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr axis and during which powerful combatants succeeded in reaching the border, our forces dealt repeated and crushing blows to the weakened and deteriorating enemy forces.

In this part of the operations, our combatants succeeded in crushing the 6th and 12th Brigades of the 3d Division of the Iraqi Army, destroying their positions and inflicting heavy casualties on their 8th Mechanized Brigade. They also surrounded the positions occupied by the 24th Brigade of the enemy's 10th Division and completely destroyed it.

The commander of this brigade, Yunes Mohammad Rushid, was wounded during this operation.

During this operation, codenamed 'Ali ibn Abu Talib to coincide with birthday anniversary of this superman of Islamic history, our combatants lulled a large number of aggressors and captured some of them. Some 482 POW's were evacuated in the second phase of the operation, west of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road.

This morning, the fast flyers of the Iranian Air Force and the eagles of the airborne division began bombing the enemy assembly points and positions in various regions within the operational zone, destroying a large number of tanks, artillery pieces and vehicles.

In today's operations, six enemy planes including two Mirages, were downed by our fighters and the fire of our antiaircraft units. One enemy helicopter was also downed by our powerful fire.

In general, today's operation west of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr Road, which resulted in our combatants reaching the international borders, was another great lesson for the duped Saddamists and should make them realize that the army of Islam takes its power and force from God and therefore standing up to it only means defeat, destruction, abjectness and indignity.

Therefore, we ask all the remaining Iraqi forces not to act according to the evil and criminal whims of Saddam and to place themselves in the safe shelter of the Islamic Republic of Iran by joining Islam. With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and the liberation of Jerusalem [bayt al-moqaddas]. With the assistance from God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Joint staff of the armed forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Joint Communique 14

LD081136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 May 82

[Joint communique No 14 issued by the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Proud and heroic people of Iran: Your brave sons, by relying on the undiminishing power of God in continuation of the second phase of the Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas], succeeded in recapturing the important and strategic Hamid garrison, which has been under the claws of the Ba'thist invaders for 19 months. Our forces fully captured the enemy positions in this region. The brave warriors of Islam also succeeded in cleansing the northern sector of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road of the filth of the invaders; the enemy was forced to retreat and flee.

The feeble enemy, who has lost its ability to resist, is leaving behind many dead and wounded and a large amount of destroyed equipment. The brave combatants of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the self-sacrificing personnel of the Guards Corps continue to deliver blows to the enemy.

According to the latest information, the forces of Islam are about to liberate the strategic Hoveyzeh.

During these epicmaking moments, we must continue to beseech God Almighty to grant great victories to the corps of Islam; with the assistance of God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Joint Communique 15

LD081804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 May 82

[Joint communique No 15 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressors. Mohammad, the prophet of God, and those who are with him are harsh with the enemy but merciful among themselves. [Koranic verse]

The sacred atmosphere of the Islamic homeland is fragrant with the life-giving scent of the grace of God. The epic acts of the fighters of Islam -- these forces who open the gates of the salvation of all the oppressed people of the world and who sing the song of victory -- have bestowed a divine grandeur upon the oppressed people who are fighting on the battlefronts between truth and falsehood. Unbounded praise to Almighty God, who alone should be worshipped. God be glorified, for He bestowed upon us the honor of following and safeguarding the faith proclaimed by His messenger, Mohammad -- may God's grace and blessings be upon him -- and his kin, and who have brought degradation, defeat and fear upon his enemies.

The powerful fighters of Islam, continuing the second stage of the Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas], under the codename Ya 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, today, after first capturing the important and strategic Hamid garrison and raising the flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and after completing mopping-up operations in the northern part of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road, continued their advances and succeeded in liberating Hoveyzeh -- this city of fighting believers and self-sacrificing monotheists and the lovers of martyrdom -- from the hands of the enemies of God and people and thus returned the region to the embrace of the Islamic homeland. Hoveyzeh -- this land of martyrdom of devoted martyrs and the battlefield of the epic-making fighters of Islam -- was liberated by the victorious forces of Islam. During today's victorious advances, extensive parts of the Islamic homeland were liberated from the hands of the Ba'thist aggressors. Some of the liberated areas included the Susangerd-Hoveyzeh road in the Tarrah region, and also (Nabard), (Forsieh), (Seyyed Jaber) and many other villages. These areas were liberated during today's operations and are now under the complete control of the powerful forces of Islam. As a result of the advances of the forces of Islam, the hero-nurturing city of Ahvaz and the city of unknown martyrs, Susangerd, are now out of the range of artillery fire from the criminal enemy.

Since the beginning of the second phase of the extensive Jerusalem Operation, heavy losses and casualties have been inflicted upon the aggressive enemy but due to the extensive nature of the operation, no accurate statistics are yet available.

The high-flying eagles of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the heroic pilots of the airborne division today carried out numerous sorties and, while providing air cover for the areas in which operation took place, inflicted heavy blows and damage to the aggressive enemy forces. One aggressive enemy aircraft was hit by antiaircraft fire of the fighters of Islam and was downed to the west of Karun.

May God's assistance continue to vouchsafe the followers of truth, and may the victorious fighters of Islam be granted patience and steadfastness, and may the prayers of the great imam of the Islamic ummah, the idol-crushing Khomeyni, as well as the prayers of the martyr-nurturing and revolutionary nation come to the aid of the fighters of Islam, and may they augur future victories for them. By relying upon the undiminishing power of Almighty God, the fighters of Islam continue to create new epic tales and move forward, with hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and the liberation of Jerusalem from usurping Zionism. With the assistance of God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Joint Communique 16

LD091258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 82

[Joint communique No 16 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In the name of God, the crusher of the oppressor. Mohammad, the prophet of God, and those who are with him are harsh with the enemy but merciful among themselves. [Koranic verse]

On the permanent battlefield of the Islamic umma against the world oppressor and its servants, the valiant sons of the Koran school, with their bravery and martyrdom, are about to inflict their final and crushing blows upon the Satanic powers and their mercenaries, these enemies of faith and Islam, to bring to the world oppressed the final and extensive victory.

Combatant and Muslim umma of Iran: Following the successful Jerusalem operation [bayt al-moqaddas] which was launched under the codename Ya 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, the combatants of Islam continue to inflict crushing blows on the enemy. Following the liberation of the strategic garrisons of Hamid and Hoveyzeh, as well as the Susangerd-Hoveyzeh road and north of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road, our warriors succeeded this morning in recapturing completely the supply and communications region of Jofeyr and clearing this region of the dirty existence of the Ba'athist regime's aggressors. In continuing these operations, the Islamic warriors relying on God's endless energy and with love for victory or martyrdom, have continued with their assault and attacks against the world oppressor and Saddam's deceived mercenaries and are advancing toward the city of honor and epic, the city of blood and martyrdom, the city of faith and dedication, heroic Khorramshahr. The warriors of the Islamic army, these selfless sons of the umma of Islam, are continuing with their advance for the complete surrender of the city; thus by destroying and crushing the aggressor enemy forces, to liberate and clear Khorramshahr, this city of blood, from the Saddamists and aggressors.

Yes, city of blood and city of martyrdom, city of resistance, we are coming to clean your body of the black oppression and teach a final lesson to the American Saddam and the Saddamist Americans. We are coming with our umma's blessings and their prayers to Almighty God, to present Islam and the nation of Islam with greater victories. With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and liberation of Jerusalem from occupying Zionism. With the assistance of God, victory is near.

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Joint Communique 17

LD100956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 10 May 82

[Communique No 17 of the Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Excerpt] Oh combative Islamic umma, the third phase of the victorious Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas] began at 2245 last night under the codename Ya 'Ali ibn Abu Talib, when the Islamic valiants, relying on the boundless divine might, launched an extensive attack against the enemy.

The Islamic combatants succeeded in smashing the first enemy embankment south of the Ahvaz-Khuninshahr road at 2315. During a battle against the weakened enemy, our forces continued their advance. During these operations, the valiant Islamic fighters smashed the enemy forces, which had been reinforcing their fortifications, tanks and mechanized forces for the past few days in the northwest and west of Khorramshahr and inflicted heavy losses and casualties on them. A considerable number of the aggressive troops are dead and a considerable quantity of enemy tanks, personnel carriers, vehicles and equipment has been destroyed by the Islamic combatants. While engaged in heavy fighting against the weakened enemy, the Islamic forces continued their advance to recapture Shalamcheh, its supply road and then annihilate the enemy forces in the Khorramshahr area. Further details of the operations will be announced later.

Meanwhile, during the second phase of the Jerusalem Operation, which culminated in the liberation of a vast area west of the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr Road, Hoveyzeh, Hamid garrison, Jufeyr and the Susangerd-Hoveyzeh road, more than 2,600 km of the Islamic homeland were cleared of the aggressive enemy. Thus, since the beginning of the Jerusalem operation over 3,400 sq km of the occupied territory have been recaptured from the invading enemy and fully liberated. With hope for the Islamic combatants' final victory and the liberation of Jerusalem from occupying Zionism.!

[Signed] The Central Headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Joint Staff Communique 890

LD071814 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 May 82

[Communique No 890 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. We wish ultimate victory for all Islamic warriors and send our greetings to the souls of our martyrs in the battlefield where good is combatting evil. As we have already informed the dear Muslim nation of the victories achieved by Islamic combatants during the Jeruslaem Operation [Bayt al-Moqaddas] in our earlier communiques, so we announce the results of efforts and self-sacrifices made by other self-sacrificing combatants in the Islamic republic's armed forces in other battlefields, they have not ceased their efforts to annihilate the Saddam forces.

In the course of an exchange of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts our naval heroes, having returned the enemy's fire and silenced it, destroyed a number of enemy positions as well as a large communications tower in Fao Port. During this operation a number of enemy troops were either killed or wounded. Our gendarmerie heroes also succeeded in destroying 10 enemy trenches and foxholes as well as several observation posts on the same fronts and inflicting some damage to the Fao jetty.

Yesterday, fighting continued on most fronts in the western sector, with our artillery fire and ground forces units stopping Saddam's troops in every sector. During these operations three enemy tanks were rendered useless and two ammunition dumps were destroyed; also a number of enemy emplacements and their personnel were destroyed.

Heavy artillery fire is continuing against Saddam's forces in Biyarah, Hargineh and Towayleh, causing considerable losses and casualties to the enemy troops. In the Biyarah area an antiaircraft gun together with its ammunition was destroyed; in the Hargineh area several observation posts and in the Towayleh area a number of enemy trucks were destroyed and set ablaze.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Unnumbered Joint Staff Communique

LD091950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 82

[Unnumbered communique of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name, thanks and gratitude in an honorable and proud manner to the generous God and the most exalted creator for His honorably advancing Islam and the combatants of Islam, who under His blessings and divine help against the blasphemous enemy and the unbelieving aggressor makes Islam's relentless and blasphemy-fighting battle eternal.

Simultaneous with the glad tidings of victory and conquest achieved in the Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-mozaddas], the self-sacrificing combatants of the ground forces do not spare a moment to deal blows at and destroy the aggressive Saddamists or to deal blows at the falling body of the enemy. In an area stretching from Salehabad to Sar-e Pol-e Zahab they killed or wounded a number of the Iraqi forces and silenced their fire, set fire to three trucks, one of which was carrying ammunition, and destroyed two mortars and several heavy and light weapons positions of the Saddamist forces.

On the Marivan fronts, the enemy positions on the other side of the border came under the intense fire of the combatants of Islam and losses and casualties were inflicted upon the enemy, including the destruction of a number of the Saddamists' vehicles together with their occupants.

On the Abadan fronts the heroes of the gendarmerie brought the positions of the Iraqi forces on the other side of the Arvand Rud under the intense heavy weapons fire and were able to set fire to and destroy one fuel tanker, one mortar, three heavy machinegun emplacements and eight trenches of the Saddamists. Approximately 50 of the Ba'thist mercenaries were killed or wounded.

At 1523 today, an intruding aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi Army was shot down by the air defense unit of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Abadan front. [Tehran IRNA in English at 0955 GMT on 9 May notes the aircraft was a MiG]

Yesterday, the enemy's scattered positions in the western zone in Khorramshahr came under the fire of the heroes of the navy, and three observations posts and several trenches of the enemy were destroyed, and six Saddamist forces were killed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Hoveyzeh Leveled; Hamid Hit

LD090954 Tehran IRNA in English 0919 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] Ahvaz, 9 May (IRNA) -- The city of Hoveyzeh, recently liberated by Iranian forces, was levelled to the ground by Iraqi forces after all the houses of the city were exploded.

Hoveyzeh, some 30 kms from the international border southwest of Susangerd, which was liberated after 19 months' occupation on Saturday, was completely destroyed by Iraqi aggressors. The bridge of Hoveyzeh and the fresh water reservoir were also destroyed by enemy troops. The Iraqis left only two buildings' walls standing before they fled the town.

Meanwhile, the Hamid garrison, 40 kms from Ahvaz on the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road, which was also liberated on Saturday, was partly destroyed. Members of the reconstruction jihad have already started repair work on the Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road after a gaping hole was made by the fleeing Iraqis. On both sides of the road embankments, strongholds of the enemy could be seen. For several kms around the Ahvaz-Khuninshar road and railway thousands of mines were neutralised by the Islamic combatants.

Missile Bases Fall

LD091808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] With the crushing, rapid advance of the very proud combatants of Islam, the epic-making and hero-nurturing city of Khorramshahr is now on the verge of being totally liberated.

With the stationing of the forces of Islam in Jofeyr, the missile bases of the aggressive enemy at the junction of Jofeyr-Hoveyzeh-Hamid -- which were targetted on Ahvaz -- have now fallen.

PRESIDENT URGES IRAQI MUSLIM TROOPS TO REBEL

LD091354 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 82

[President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i's message addressed to Muslim soldiers of the Iraqi Army -- date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Muslim soldiers of the Iraqi Army, now that the last positions of Saddam's aggressive forces are being conquered by the army of Islam, now that the towns of the Islamic land of Iran are being liberated from the occupation by the forces of blasphemy, now that the victorious soldiers of Islam are freeing every inch of their Islamic homeland from the grip of invading forces and now that the forces of Islam are preparing themselves for the final victory and liberation of Jerusalem [bayt al-moqaddas] after almost 2 years, it would be fitting to ask yourselves why and for what reason Saddam has sent you to the Islamic homeland of Islam for more than 19 months and used you to shed the blood of the best children of Islam and the Koran and to demolish well developed and pleasant towns in the occupied regions of Iran such as (Diryasin), as a result of which thousands of families were forced to leave their homes and tens of thousands of people now mourn the loss of their husbands, fathers or sons. Is there any reason other than the fact that in Iran the Islamic regime has been established by the heroic, brave and Muslim nation of Iran, and this regime has mobilized all its might to liberate occupied Palestine and Jerusalem [bayt al-moqaddas] and has begun a ceaseless war with U.S. imperialism on all fronts.

Muslim soldiers of the Iraqi Army, Saddam has committed treason not only against you and the Iraqi people but against all Arab nations. The aggression launched by him against Iran, which made even the Zionists look good, was part of the treacherous Camp David plot to destroy the bud of the Islamic revolution throughout the region, establish the Zionists' rule over the Al-Aqsa Mosque and attack the lives and property of Muslims, especially the Arab nation. Thus a strong and direct bond has been created between Jordan, Egypt and other pro-American subservient regimes and Saddam and a strong, secretive and indirect bond has been created between America, Israel and the Ba'thist regime of Iraq founded by Michel Aflaq.

Muslim soldiers of the Iraqi Army, if you do not rise for God, if you do not aim and shoot at Ba'thist commanders with your rifles and if you continue your silence toward this bloodthirsty regime, tomorrow you will be used to crush your compatriot and Muslim brothers and sisters in Baghdad, Karbala, Samarra, Kazemin, Najaf, Amarah, Musel and Kirkuk, who have had enough of Saddam's oppression. Once Saddam's regime is toppled you will be disgraced and you will be answerable to the Iraqi nation for this great treason. Wake and rise, form revolutionary centers and guerrilla groups and stage armed rebellion against this corrupt regime. Put an end to the last days of this corrupt mercenary of Israel and rest assured that Saddam is finished. Be aware and do not allow him to be replaced with another paw through tricks and phoney coups. Use your weapons to guard your parents, your brothers and sisters, your wives and children and to protect the honor of your nation. Aim at the Ba'thist commanders and shoot them. Form revolutionary groups and help your nation to use all its power to make the Islamic revolution victorious and to bring about the rule of the oppressed in Iraq. Know that God's promise is near and victory is within your reach. The Muslim nation of Iran is awaiting your victory and the honor of your nation with love and enthusiasm so that by defeating American and Israeli mercenaries in your country, the path to the liberation of Jerusalem [bayt al-moqaddas] will become smoother. Go forward in reliance on God, and with unity and courage.

[Signed] Your Brother Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MAJLIS SPEAKER ON IRAQI LIABILITY FOR WAR COSTS

GF090645 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0502 GMT 9 May 82

[Speech by Majlis Speaker Hasemi-Rafsanjani delivered prior to the start of the debate of the Majlis open session -- live]

[Excerpt] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I thank the self-sacrificing and heroic warriors on behalf of the esteemed Majlis representatives and heroic and martyr-nurturing people of the Islamic Republic of Iran. With their bravery and sacrifice they have brought the war to the verge of absolute victory and have forced the enemies of Islam to flee and suffer the shame of retreat. I pray the Almighty will give them and the people who supported the war behind the fronts [word indistinct] happiness and health.

It is worth noting that according to reports last night, Mr Saddam, in a speech, thanked the heroic Iraqi Army for its timely retreat. This is the same Saddam who about 2 years ago thanked the Iraqi Army for the creation of the new Al-Qadisiyah and stated that he is the hero of the new Al-Qadisiyah. We have nothing to do with what Saddam wishes to say. He has the right to speak. What concerns us is actions and the result of the war.

The retreat of the Iraqi forces under the pressure and machinegun fire of our ground forces is not an ordinary escape. They left behind a great deal of destruction in our country. What the Saddamists did to Hamid garrison and Hoveyzeh and to Khorramshahr, Qasr-e Shirin, the roads, railways, bridges and other areas under their control, even the lampposts, are not things that can easily be forgiven. The Israelis certainly did not commit such criminal acts in Qunaytirah. They returned it to the Syrian Government in state of destruction, but it was certainly nothing compared to what Iraq has done to our country, cities and roads. Of course, they think they are injecting us with their last drops of venom. They are mistaken in thinking that the Iranian people will pay for the destruction. No, we will include all these in our list of war damages and in Saddam's account.

Therefore, another page is added to Saddam's criminal actions and to that of the Iraqi [word indistinct] Ba'thist party. They will have to answer to the Iraqi and Iranian nations, the Islamic nations and the oppressed people of the world. Whether Iraq can pay for these damages or not is another matter. However, Saddam and the Ba'th Party will have to answer to the Iraqi nation and the entire world. When the Iraqi escapees enter Iraqi soil again, what will they tell the Iraqi people? What gifts will they take back for their people from Iran? These are matters which have to be discussed. The Iraqi people will have to face them. They cannot expect us to easily forgo Saddam's actions. We ask our armed forces to increase their pressure on the Ba'thists so that the just rights of the Iranian people can be obtained.

EXPLOSION DESTROYS SYRIAN EMBASSY; IRAQ BLAMED

LD091240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at 0730 this morning, 40 lbs of TNT exploded in front of the Syrian Embassy in Tehran, destroying the four-story Syrian Embassy and damaging several other buildings and cars. The report adds that the explosion did not result in loss of life and that only 16 passersby, including several children, were injured. This explosion, which coincides with the notable victories of the forces of Islam and follows the stance taken by the brother country of Syria toward the war imposed by Iraq on Iran and the attack by the treacherous Iraqi regime's fighter planes on the plane carrying the Algerian delegation, was carried out by the agents of the world-devoring United States and occupying Zionists.

According to Central News Unit correspondents, those injured in the explosion were immediately taken to hospitals by brother members of the local revolution committees.

The bomb was planted in a Blazer car that was parked in front of the Syrian Embassy. At the time of the explosion, none of the Syrian Embassy employees or officials were present at the embassy. A bomb disposal expert told our correspondent that the bomb weighed 30-40 lbs.

Following the explosion, Syrian Ambassador to Iran Ibrahim Ahmad al-Yunis went to the embassy to inspect the damage. He told a Voice and Vision correspondent that the explosion was carried out by the agents of imperialism and Israel and is nothing out of the ordinary, since anyone who tries to fight imperialism is subjected to attempts on his life. This is an honor for us. The Syrian ambassador referred to the role played by Iraq in the explosion and noted that Iraq has a long record of such acts. He said: Our view on this explosion is the same view expressed by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

RAFSANJANI: IRAQ RESPONSIBLE FOR BEN YAHIA DEATH

Remarks to Majlis

LD072214 Tehran IRNA in English 1940 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 7 May (IRNA) -- In the open session of the Majlis Thursday, Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani, talking about the disastrous crash of the plane carrying the Algerian foreign minister and other Algerian officials, expressed his condolences to the Algerian people. He added that he had been hoping that the Algerian foreign minister, Mohamed Ben Yahia, who in the past three years had always taken a firm stand in favour of the Islamic revolution of Iran, would this time bring a message of peace and take a righteous stance towards the Iraqi aggression. However, the aggressor regime of Iraq and the Iraqi Ba'thist Party, which claimed to be in favour of peace, did not allow the Algerian mission to fulfill its responsibility. The Iraqi Ba'thist Party proved that it would fight against any one who was after [words indistinct] peace.

The Majlis speaker hoped that the conscientious minds of the world would expose the fascist nature of the Iraqi Government.

The first deputy who spoke in the session was Tehran Deputy Hadi Ghaffari who referring to plots of the world oppressors said that the Iranian people through their resistance proved that the plots were useless and added that fortunately now the Islamic revolution of Iran was politically established in the world. He further added that some small countries of the region opposing the Islamic revolution of Iran, have now realised that such an attitude was useless. He called on the governments of the region to join the blessings of the Islamic revolution of Iran. At the end Ghaffari stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran relied neither on the West nor the East and would neither be blackmailed or conduct such an act.

In this session the Majlis continued its debate on the bill concerning the nationalisation of foreign trade and another 16 articles of the bill were approved. The session ended at noon and the next session will meet on Sunday.

Friday Prayers Sermon

LD072122 Tehran IRNA in English 2014 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 7 May (IRNA) -- The temporary Friday prayers leader of Tehran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, said to an audience of hundreds of thousands in Tehran today that the ruling regime in Baghdad had martyred the Algerian foreign minister, Ben Yahia, because "it was sure that upon his return from Iran, the Algerian minister would say things against the interest of the Baghdad regime." He said Ben Yahia's clear cut stand vis-a-vis the imposed war and the Islamic revolution in Iran, and his express verbal support for Iran in a conference in Germany last year had panicked Saddam Husayn and that he had a foreboding that Ben Yahia's mission to Iran would precipitate his doomed fall from power. He said Saddam was evidently conscious of his diminishing power and his dwindling resources for continuing the war against the Islamic Republic. He said as a rule, in the last days of any dictator's life, he would tend to become more and more "ferocious," and that that was why Saddam Husayn was waging a war against the Islamic Republic.

He recalled that a taped radio communication between the pilot of the ill-fated Algerian jet, and the control tower in the Iranian city of Tabriz, together with eye-witnesses all verified the fact that Ben Yahia's plane had been hit by Iraqi fighters. He noted also that the missile which had hit the Algerian plane and whose scrap still remains in Iran was of the type that could be launched by MiG's only (the usual aircraft used in Iraq's Air Forces), a fact which further corroborated expert testimony.

The Friday prayers leader of Tehran also said that tens of embassies of various countries throughout the world such as those of the Saudi Government were bribing the local press and news media to hush up the news of the air crash, so that the world would remain uninformed of the crime by the Baghdad regime.

He concluded that the military capability of the Islamic Republic had developed to a level as to have reduced the country to being capable only of "puerile behaviour". [sentence as received]

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM BEN YAHIA FUNERAL

LD090848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 May 82

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Velayati and the delegation accompanying him returned to Tehran at 0200 today after their trip to Algeria and Syria, which included attending the funeral ceremonies for the martyr Ben Yahia and other martyrs killed in the Iraqi regime's plot. During this trip he conferred with Algerian and Syrian leaders.

REGIME TAMPERED WITH PLANE CRASH EVIDENCE

GF081144 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] The regime's agents have tampered with the evidence and the orginal documents of the downed Algerian airplane in the [name indistinct] area of western Azarbayjan.

The Voice of Iran correspondent in Reza'iyeh in his second special dispatch from the scene of the crash of the airplane which was carrying the murdered foreign minister of Algeria says: According to the residents of the area and the local villagers, a brown-colored jeep with four passengers was seen heading toward the debris of the airplane about 2 to 3 hours after the crash.

According to these eyewitnesses, another jeep of the same description joined them a few hours later, but after a short while, the sound of shots was heard. This lasted for a few minutes and then both the jeeps hastily left the place. Later, 3 or (?4) gendarmes arrived at the spot, but no shooting took place. Our correspondent, continuing his report, adds: The residents of the village of (Kanakur), north of (?Shapur) in west Azarbayjan, said that during the past (?few days) 4 persons, whose identity could not be ascertained, had been interred in the (?heights) in the vicinity of this village. The important point is that a jeep resembling the previous one was seen in the same place in the same conditions. Our correspondent continues: The [words indistinct] who were killed in the area of (Kanakur) were the same persons who had arrived on the scene a few (?minutes) after the crash of the plane carrying the Algerian (?delegation) and had approached the plane. It is possible that they had disturbed the evidence [word indistinct] and the real evidence of the cause of the crash and had created a misleading picture. It is possible that the same persons had planted shrapnel from Soviet missiles, which they had obtained in abundance from the battlefield, in place of the actual explosives, and after completing their (?criminal act), had been murdered by another group of the regime's agents so that the details of this operation could not be revealed.

This report added that the villagers of (Kanakur) had informed the regime's guards of the internment of 4 persons in the mountains surrounding the aforementioned village, but until Thursday, the day of the (?dispatch) of this report, they had not made it known.

According to the free Voice of Iran reporter, on Friday morning, when 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister of the regime, arrived at the Algiers airport along with his entourage, about 50 persons, among whom were two Algerian writers, shouted anti-Khomeyni slogans. These persons held portraits of the Algerian foreign minister, Ben Yahia, who had been killed in the crash, and shouted that Khomeyni's regime was responsible for the killing of Ben Yahia.

Our correspondent adds: The airport security guards cordoned off the area and took the demonstrators to an unknown destination. It may be recalled that 'Ali Akbar Velayati is leading a delegation to attend the last rites for Algerian Foreign Minister Ben Yahia and his companions; he arrived in Algiers on Friday morning.

Meanwhile, the Algerian newspapers have refrained from mentioning Iraq in connection with Ben Yahia's death. [passage indistinct] The Voice of Iran correspondent adds: To investigate the (?actual events) surrounding the plane crash, the Algerian Government will (?send its inquiry commission) to Iran. Informed circles and ordinary people in Algiers say that despite the claims of Khomeyni's regime, the mullahs of the ruling regime had a hand in this heinous crime.

SHEYKH MOHARRER CONVICTED IN ANTI-KHOMEYNI PLOT

NC081634 Paris AFP in English 1622 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 8 May (AFP) -- An Iranian religious leader, Sheykh Ebrahim Moharrer, and three revolutionary guards have been convicted and sentenced for their part in an alleged plot to overthrow Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the Tehran newspaper ETTELA'AT reported today.

Sheykh Ebrahim Moharrer, from Naqadeh in western Azerbayjan Province, in northwestern Iran, was sentenced to ten years' exile in the holy city of Qom, 160 kms (120 miles) south of Tehran, the paper said citing a revolutionary court official from the province.

The other three accused, who "infiltrated the revolutionary guards" received sentences of 10 years' imprisonment, the paper said.

Today's article is the first reference to a trial of those implicated in the plot, uncovered on April 10, which has implicated former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh and Ayatollah Shari'atmadari, second in the Iranian Shi'ite religious hierarchy.

The conspirators were allegedly preparing to topple Ayatollah Khomeyni and seize power. A public trial is scheduled, but a date has not so far been announced.

GHARAZI ON OIL POLICY, INSTALLATIONS REBUILDING

LD091344 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] Minister of Petroleum Mohammad Gharazi was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to whom he presented a report on his ministry's performance.

After his audience with the imam of the nation, the petroleum minister spoke to a Central News Unit correspondent on Iran's oil policy. He said the previous regime was a tool of the United States and Israel. Following the victory of our revolution, Iran's policy has been to use the oil weapon to establish the rule of the oppressed throughout the world. Therefore, we support such countries as Syria, which has been fighting Israel for more than 3 years and which has been able [words indistinct] in Palestine and the neighboring countries. We are ready to fight side by side with it. [words indistinct] Therefore, we have established oil ties with Syria.

The minister added that during his meeting with the imam, he told him that since His Eminenance Ayatollah Montazeri has declared 8 June the day of the oppressed, the Cabinet has been discussing the idea of using oil to promote Iranian policy for the oppressed. He said the imam's reply was an expression of hope.

In view with the liberation of the occupied lands, our correspondent asked about the Petroleum Ministry's plans for the reconstruction of these areas. The minister replied that we share oil resources with Iraq in most of these areas, especially in the (?Meymak) area. Before the war we were prepared to exploit these resources, but as a result of the war, a number of installations have been destroyed. The minister added that his ministry's first task is to get exploitation of these resources underway quickly. Our production will then return to prewar levels. The speedy reconstruction of the oil installations in Khorramshahar, Susangerd, Shush, Dehloran, (Naft Shahr) and Qasr-e Shirin is also planned. These installations have been destroyed as a result of the war.

Concluding his remarks, the minister said: Of course, reconstruction of the Abadan oil refinery is a major project, and that has be to be decided independently.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS TERRORIST EXECUTION IN HAMEDAN

GF100442 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 25 Apr 82 p 8

[Text] Hamedan -- A member of the apostate minigroup who was involved in the murder of a police official and the unsuccessful attempts on the lives of Hojjat ol-Eslam Ma'adikhah and the late Ayatollah Rabbani-Shirazi was hung in full view of thousands of the faithful people of Hamedan on the order of the Hamedan Islamic Court.

According to the IRNA correspondent, before the hanging took place, the shari magistrate of the Islamic Revolution Court of Hamedan, Hojjat ol-Eslam Abol Hasan A'lami, introduced the convicted person as Mahmud Sa'idi son of Zainollah during his speech after the recitation of the holy Koran. The guilty person had been active in the Forqan group, and used the aliases of Mohammed and 'Ali. The magistrate then mentioned the charges as: membership in the Forqan group; complicity in the abortive attempted assassination of Ayatollah Rabbani-Shirazi and the unsuccessful attack on Hojjat ol-Eslam Ma'adikhah in a clash with two police officials of Hamedan, which terminated in the martyrdom of the chief guard, Hasan 'Azizi, and the wounding of another policeman on the 20th of Ramazan last year; the identification of certain employees of the French Embassy for purposes of assassination; armed holdups of banks; living in a communal house; forging of identity cards and seals; soliciting members for the Forqan organization and participation in the preparation and distribution of literature.

The Shar' magistrate added: The accused has admitted to the above charges explicitly in court and has proclaimed his guilt during the trial. The report adds that following the statement of the Shar' magistrate, the accused was hanged.

BRIEFS

NEW GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS -- The Information, Publications and Public Relations Department of the State Ministry announced the appointments of Messrs Seyyed Hoseyn Mar'ashi as the political and administrative deputy of the Kerman governor general's office, Mohammad Esma'il Hoseyni Fashmi as the governor of Neyshabur, 'Abdol 'Azim Musavi as the governor of Qazvin, 'Abdol Hamid Ansari as the governor of Behbahan and Majid Zargarbashi as the governor of Sirjan. These appointments had been approved by Minister of State Nateq-Nuri. [Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 25 Apr 82 p 1 GF]